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BEANS  
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INTERNATIONAL DRY BEAN TRADE

CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

UP SHARPLY IN 1963

Dry bean exports from 35 reporting free world countries totaled 7.8 million bags in calendar year 1963. This was 46 percent more than these same countries exported in 1962 and 39 percent more than the 1955-59 average of their exports.

A sizable part of the world's international trade in beans is not reported; for example, the very considerable exports that normally move from Communist China and Burma to Japan. Most of this, however, is not the kind of beans traded in the Western Hemisphere. Much of China's export is azuki and broad beans, and much of Burma's export is a type of lima bean and miscellaneous pulses similar to and including mung beans.

The United States was the world's largest exporter in 1963, supplying 59 percent of the total of the 35 countries. In 1962, the United States supplied 40 percent, and in 1955-59, supplied 47 percent.

The second largest exporter was Mexico which supplied almost 700,000 bags or 13 times as many as in 1962 and unquestionably a record for that country. A decade ago, Mexico was second largest importer from the United States. Mexico imported 1.2 million bags from the United States in 1952-53, and 191,000 bags in 1963-64, according to U.S. export data. Mexican bean production has increased rapidly in the last few years making Mexico the Free World's third largest producer -- exceeded by Brazil and the United States only.

U.S. exports in calendar year 1963 included 106,000 bags donated to foreign charity, and 440,000 bags under other Titles of P.L. 480. Of the 4.5 million bags exported, exclusive of charity, 31 percent went to Britain, 27 percent to EEC Europe, 4 percent to the Caribbean, 7 percent to Venezuela, 5 percent to Spain and 4 percent to Australia and Japan in about equal quantities.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

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